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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/673,897	01/05/2001	Bichot Guillaume	PF980020	7113

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Thomson Multimedia Licensing Inc
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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, VAN H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2194

DATE MAILED: 04/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/673,897

Applicant(s)

GUILLAUME ET AL.

Examiner

VAN H NGUYEN

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– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 December 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-10 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Boyles et al.** (U.S. 5,511,208).

4. **As to claim 1**, Boyles teaches (abstract) a method for the distributed management of a catalogue of objects (*resources*) in a communication network (*a computer network*) comprising devices (*multiple cache server nodes, network nodes*), the process comprising the steps of:

- registering local objects present in a device in a local registry managed at the level of this device (*a local directory for storing resource records for resources*; col.5, lines 4-10);
- formulating, by a local object (*the origin cache server node*; col.5, line 55-56), a request (*a LOCATE request*; col.5, line 55-56 and col.8, lines 11-12) for a list of objects (*resources*;

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col.5, line 55-56/multiple equivalent cache server nodes; col.8, lines 11-12), the request being transmitted to the single local registry of the device hosting the local object (col.5, lines 54-59);

- propagating the request through the local registry to distant registries (If the requested resource is not a local resource...the LOCATE request is then directed in an operation 66 to a selected gateway node to permit searches for the resource in adjacent networks; col.5, line 46- col.6, line 34);

- collecting the responses to the request by the distant registries and the response of the local registry; and transmitting the responses collected to the local object having formulated the initial request (since a LOCATE request directed to multiple equivalent cache server nodes is likely to result in multiple replies, the origin cache server node continues to process replies received from those nodes even while attempting to verify resource information about a resource outside a cache server node domain...a reply containing the necessary information is returned to the requesting node in an operation 114; col. 8, lines 11-65/the results are cached in the cross-domain directory of the origin cache server node in operation 214; col.9, lines 26-49).

5. **As to claim 2**, Boyles teaches a local registry comprises for each object registered therein an identifier of this object in the network, this identifier being unique for the network; as well as attributes of the object (col.5, lines 4-25).

6. **As to claim 3**, Boyles teaches the identifier comprises an identifier of the device in which the object is present, this device identifier being unique in the network, as well as of a local identifier unique to this object at the level of the device (col.5, lines 4-25).

7. **As to claim 4**, Boyles teaches a type of request formulated by an object is a request comprising at least one selection criterion pertaining to an object attribute (col.2, lines 55-65

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and col.5, lines 46-59);

8. **As to claim 5**, Boyles teaches an object is an attribute stored by a local registry in respect of the object (col.5, lines 4-25).

9. **As to claim 6**, Boyles teaches the step of propagating a request comprises the step of determining the devices connected to the network which themselves comprise a registry (col.5, lines 4-25).

10. **As to claim 7**, Boyles teaches the step of determining the devices comprises the determination of the types of the devices present in the network, the type of a device indicating whether it hosts a registry or whether it does not host one (fig. 4A).

11. **As to claim 8**, Boyles teaches a type of request formulated by an object is a request comprising selection criteria for at least two lists of objects, as well as at least one operator for processing the lists (fig. 5).

12. **Claim 9** is directed to a device for performing the method of claim 1, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

13. **As to claim 10**, Boyles teaches means for determining the addresses of devices of the network comprising so-called distant registries (col.5, line 46-col.6, line 34).

Response to Arguments

14. Applicant's arguments filed December 12, 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

15. In the remarks, Applicant argued in substance that Boyles et al. does not teach or suggest, at least, that a request is made for a list of objects, and that there may be a plurality of responses to the request, which are collected and transmitted to the requesting object.

16. Examiner respectfully traverses Applicant's remarks.

Boyles does teach a request (a LOCATE request; col.5, line 55-56 and col.8, lines 11-12), is made (broadcasts; col.5, line 55-56/directed; col.8, lines 11-12) for a list of objects (resources; col.5, line 55-56/multiple equivalent cache server nodes; col.8, lines 11-12), and that there may be a plurality of responses (result in multiple replies; col.8, lines 11-12) to the request, which are collected and transmitted to the requesting object (the original cache server node continues to process replies received; col.8, lines 12-14).

17. Accordingly, Boyles meets the limitations as broadly claimed by Applicant.

Conclusion

18. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

19. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

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the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

20. Any inquiry or a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist: (571) 272-2100.

21. Any inquiry or a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the TC 2100 Group receptionist: (571) 272-2100.

22. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VAN H. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-3765. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:30AM - 6:00PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternative Friday.

23. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor Meng-Ai An can be reached on (571) 272-3756.

24. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

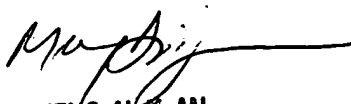
25. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

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system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this action should be mailed to:
Commissioner for patents
P O Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

vhn


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